December 12, 1947

HAROLD WEISBERG

There has been no request received from the State Department for an investigation or a name check on Harold Weisberg. (100-351938)

June 23, 1947	The State Department advised that Weisberg was one of the ten employees to be dismissed on that date under the McCarran rider. (62-39749-913)
July 9, 1947	A memorandum from Assistant Attorney General Theron L. Caudle regarding the ten State Department employees which requested all material not previously furnished. (100-351938-2)
July 17, 1947	A memorandum from the Assistant to the Attorney General Douglas W. McGregor attaching a copy of a letter from the State Department dated July 11, 1947, listing the names of the employees dismissed by the State Department under the McCarran rider. He desired to know if there was any possible criminal prosecution in connection with these individuals. (100-351938-3)
August 5, 1947	A summary memorandum regarding Harold Weisberg which was furnished to the Attorney General. (100-351938-3)
September 6, 1947	A duplicate summary regarding Weisberg which was furnished to the Attorney General at his request. (62-39749-962)
November 18, 1947	An article appeared in the "Washington Post" on this date which stated that the State Department on the previous date had allowed seven of the dismissed State Department employees who had been dismissed for security reasons, to resign without prejudice. The State Department made this decision in order to avoid a possible injustice to them. ("Washington Post" dated 11/18/47, p.1)

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100-351938

(100-351938)
EHMOSSBURG/ofm

December 12, 1947

HAROLD WEISBERG

The Louisville Division advised on August 9, 1938, that in the year 1938 Harold Weisberg was connected with the Committee on Education and Labor, United States Senate, and was in Harlan, Kentucky, during the trial of United States versus Mary Helen Coal Corporation, et al - Civil Rights and Domestic Violence. (44-175-348)

In March, 1940, when Harold Weisberg was interviewed in connection with an official investigation, he stated that he was employed by the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee until June, 1939, and thereafter did special research work for the Dies Committee. (61-7587-624; Statement furnished by Harold Weisberg to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] Washington Field Division.)

[redacted] advised on May 8, 1940 that Harold Weisberg was the Washington correspondent of the magazine "Friday" published in New York City. He was the author of an article in the second issue of this magazine which attacked the then Assistant Secretary of State, Adolf A. Berle, Jr. (65-2839-14)

The February, 1941, issue of the "Click" magazine, page three, contained an article entitled "Hitler's Foot Soldier," dealing with a Czecho-slovakian shoe manufacturer named Jan Bata. The author of this article was Harold Weisberg, who according to a reliable source of information, was on the staff of the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee as editor of the Committee's publications. This source stated that in 1936 and 1937 he knew Weisberg and the informant was of the opinion that Weisberg was at least a Communist sympathizer, but probably was closer than that to the Party. (61-7566-[illegible]; "Click" magazine for February 1941 and [redacted])

The Washington Field Division on September 11, 1941, advised that on February 12, 1941, [redacted] of the "Silver Shirt Legion of America," was convicted on a charge of forgery and uttering and obtaining money under false pretenses. [redacted] conceived the idea of selling forged correspondence reported to be signed by [redacted] which would implicate members of the Dies Committee in a plan whereby the Silver Shirts would not be investigated by the Dies Committee. [redacted] endeavored to sell such correspondence to Harold Weisberg and [redacted] who had been very active in opposing activities of the Dies Committee. (61-7587-892X, page 15)

100-[illegible]

J.W.Parrish:mvb

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In December, 1942, and October, 1943, one Harold Weisberg was connected with the offices of Congressman Vito Marcantonio. It is not known if this individual is identical with the subject of this memorandum. (Se[illegible]-81; [redacted]

In March, 1946, Harold Weisberg was employed in the Research and Analysis Branch, Latin American Division, Office of Strategic Services, later known as the Division of the American Republics, State Department. The records of the State Department reflect that Weisberg was born in Pennsylvania on April 3, 1913. Highly confidential sources have advised that Weisberg, while so employed, was a mutual friend of [redacted] and [redacted] both of whom are known to have Communist sympathies.

Harold Weisberg was discharged from the State Department on June 23, 1947, under the provisions of the McCarran rider to the State Department's Appropriations Bill, according to [redacted] State Department employee. (62-39749-[illegible])

An article appeared in the Washington Times-Herald dated September 21, 1947, entitled "Ousted State Department Aides are Identified." This article was written by James Walter and listed among the ten employees dismissed by the State Department on June 23, 1947, the name of Harold Weisberg, 1300 Block North Nottingham Street, Arlington, Virginia, assignment not disclosed. (62-39749-A)

An article appeared in the Washington Post dated November 18, 1947, which stated that the State Department on the previous date had "backed down" on the firing without a trial of the individuals whose loyalty was said to be in question. The article stated that the employees were free to resign with nothing on their records against them. The State Department's position was reversed to avoid any possible injustice. (Wash. Post 11-18-47, page 1)

Information Appearing in State Department Files

The file on this individual was reviewed at the State Department on November 13, 1947, at which time it was determined that on December 5, 1946, the State Department sent to the Bureau for a spot check the subject's name.

This request was returned by the Bureau with the notation, "No information." On December 20, 1946, information was supplied to the State Department, although the source was not stated, that subject was a "known friend and contact of persons identified as active in the Gregory case. Nature of association not now known."

It was noted that the State Department at no time made a request of the Bureau for investigative assistance in this case. The State Department initiated an investigation of Weisberg on November 26, 1946, which continued until June 23, 1947, on which date the subject was dismissed. The State Department's investigation revealed that customary sources such as neighborhood investigation, reference checks, police department checks, review of Bureau reports, as well as the Committee on Un-American Activities were covered. It was also noted that on April 14, 1947, the State Department placed a mail cover on Weisberg. This coverage was discontinued on June 2, 1947.